

U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
Carson City District Office

**CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION
ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW AND APPROVAL**

Project Creator: Susan McCabe

Field Office: Stillwater

Lead Office: Stillwater

Case File/Project Number: N/A

Applicable Categorical Exclusion The proposed action qualifies as a categorical exclusion under:

516 DM 11.9, Appendix 4. G.4: Placement of recreational, special designation or information signs, visitor registers, kiosks, and portable sanitation devices;

516 DM 11.9, Appendix 4. J. 9: Construction of small protective enclosures, including those to protect reservoirs and springs and those to protect small study areas.

NEPA Number: DOI-BLM-NV-C010-2012-0047-CX

Project Name: Salt Cave - Fence Maintenance and Cultural Resource Sign Installation

Project Description: The proposed action will consist of the maintenance and where necessary reconstruction of the protective fence at Salt Cave. The degraded wooden supports at each corner of the fence and the support bracing will be replaced with metal pipe(s) for better support and longevity. Two locations will be left open to direct the public to viewing areas and reduce erosion.

Two signs will be placed on the openings of the fence and up to two additional signs where appropriate. The signage provides information concerning the sensitivity of cultural resources and that these locations are protected under the Archaeological Resources Protection Act of 1979 enabling law enforcement to take action in the event that a person causes damage to the cultural resources.

Applicant Name: Bureau of Land Management, Stillwater Field Office, 5665 Morgan Mill Road, Carson City, NV 89701

Project Location: Salt Cave (see map)

BLM Acres for the Project Area: < 1 acre

Land Use Plan Conformance: Carson City Field Office Consolidated Resource Management Plan (2001) The proposed action described below is consistent with National Policy regarding cultural resources (BLM Manual 8100 Cultural Resource Management 12/06/89) in that “the BLM manages cultural resources under its jurisdiction or control according to their relative importance, protecting against inadvertent loss, destruction, or impairment and accommodating the uses determined appropriate through planning and public participation.” Under the Carson City Field Office Consolidated Resource Management Plan the desired outcomes are that “cultural and paleontological resources will be protected to the maximum extent practical, consistent with other resource values” and “the objective . . . is to manage cultural resources for public benefit” (pg. CUL-1).

Name of Plan: Carson City Field Office Consolidated Resource Management Plan (2001)

Screening of Extraordinary Circumstances: The following extraordinary circumstances apply to individual actions within categorical exclusions (43 CFR 46.215). The BLM has considered the following criteria: (Specialist review: initial in appropriate box)

If any question is answered 'yes' an EA or EIS must be prepared.	YES	NO
1. Would the Proposed Action have significant impacts on public health or safety? (Range-Jill Devaurs)		No
2. Would the Proposed Action have significant impacts on such natural resources and unique geographic characteristics as historic or cultural resources; park, recreation or refuge lands; wilderness areas; wild or scenic rivers; national natural landmarks; sole or principal drinking water aquifers; prime farmlands; wetlands (EO 11990); floodplains (EO 11988); national monuments; migratory birds (EO 13186); and other ecologically significant or critical areas? (Archeology, Recreation, Wilderness, Wildlife, Range by allotment, Water Quality)		No
3. Would the Proposed Action have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources [NEPA 102(2)(E)]? (PEC)		No
4. Would the Proposed Action have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks? (PEC)		No
5. Would the Proposed Action establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects? (PEC)		No
6. Would the Proposed Action have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant environmental effects? (PEC)		No
7. Would the Proposed Action have significant impacts on properties listed, or eligible for listing, on the NRHP as determined by the bureau or office? (Archeology)		No
8. Would the Proposed Action have significant impacts on species listed, or proposed to be listed, on the list of Endangered or Threatened Species, or have significant impacts on designated Critical Habitat for these species? (Wildlife)		No
9. Would the Proposed Action violate federal law, or a State, local or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment? (PEC and Archeology)		No
10. Would the Proposed Action have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations (EA 12898)? ((PEC)		No
11. Would the Proposed Action limit access to and ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites on federal lands by Indian religious practitioners or significantly adversely affect the physical integrity of such sacred sites (EO 13007)? (Archeology)		No
12. Would the Proposed Action contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of noxious weeds or non-native species known to occur in the area or actions that may promote the introduction, growth, or expansion of the range of such species (Federal Noxious Weed Control Act and EO 13112)? (Range-Jill Devaurs)		No

SPECIALISTS' REVIEW:

During ID Team review of the above Proposed Action and extraordinary circumstances, the following specialists reviewed this CX:

Planning Environmental Coordinator, Steve Kramer: *SKM 04/09/2012*
Public Health and Safety/Grazing/Noxious Weeds, Jill Devaurs: *JD 4-9-12*
Recreation/Wilderness/VRM/LWC, Dan Westermeyer: *DW 4/9/12*
Wildlife/T&E (BLM Sensitive Species), John Wilson: *JW 4-9-12*
Archeology, Susan McCabe: *SMcCabe 4/9/12*
Water Quality, Gabe Venegas: *GV 4/9/12*
Soils, Jill Devaurs/Linda Appel/Chelsy Simerson: *LS 4/9/12*

CONCLUSION: Based upon the review of this Proposed Action, I have determined that the above-described project is a categorical exclusion, in conformance with the LUP, and does not require an EA or EIS. A categorical exclusion is not subject to protest or appeal.

Approved by:

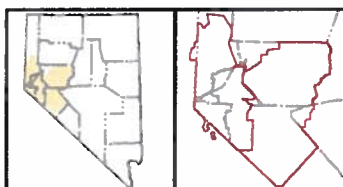
Teresa J. Knutson *4/10/2012*
Teresa J. Knutson (date)
Field Manager
Stillwater Field Office

SALT CAVE Fence Restoration and Sign Installation



0 0.04 0.08 0.16
Miles

Salt Cave, NEV PE 1985 7.5 Minute series
T17N R27E Section 14



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Bureau of Land Management
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Map Produced by:
smccabe/04/04/2012

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